

How To MAKE AN 8"x10" RUBYLITH SILK SCREEN

Materials:

- 8"x10" rubylith
- 12"x4" nylon mesh (medium)
- 4 12" 2x2 wood
- 8 2 1/2" screws
- lacquer thinner
- blocking paint
(aka screen filler)
- masking tape

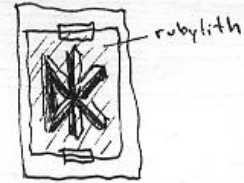
Tools:

- drill / screwgun
- Staplegun (trigger)
- X-acto blade
- rags
- fine and medium
paintbrushes
- respirator
- rubber gloves
- scissors

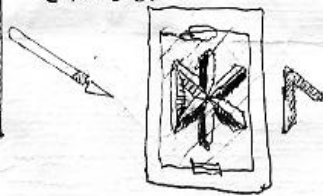
① Start with a design. The more complex the image, the more cutting you will do. Bold is best.



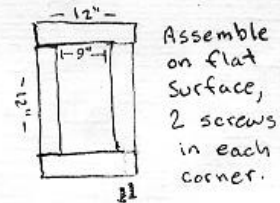
② Tape rubylith into place over your design, shiny side down.



③ Cut away top layer in places where ink will go through. Do not cut shiny layer. Peel cut portions away (like a fruit roll-up).



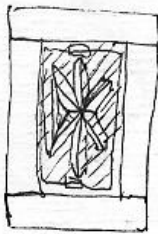
④ Build frame.



⑤ Stretch "silk" tight and square using staplegun. Work evenly from middles to corners.



⑥ Place cut rubylith pattern on hard surface shiny side down. Place frame over pattern silk side down. Position pattern and tape to screen.



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⑦ In well-ventilated work area, apply lacquer thinner with saturated rag using firm spot pressure. Do not rub! Wear mask and gloves. Rubylith changes color when successfully melted into screen.

⑧ Carefully peel away shiny layer. If rubylith comes up, go back and apply more lacquer thinner. When rubylith is one with screen, completely peel away shiny layer.

⑨ Fill any gaps and touch up using screen filler. When it dries, you are ready to print. After printing, rinse screen thoroughly but gently with warm water. Washing wears screens out, so print lots each session.